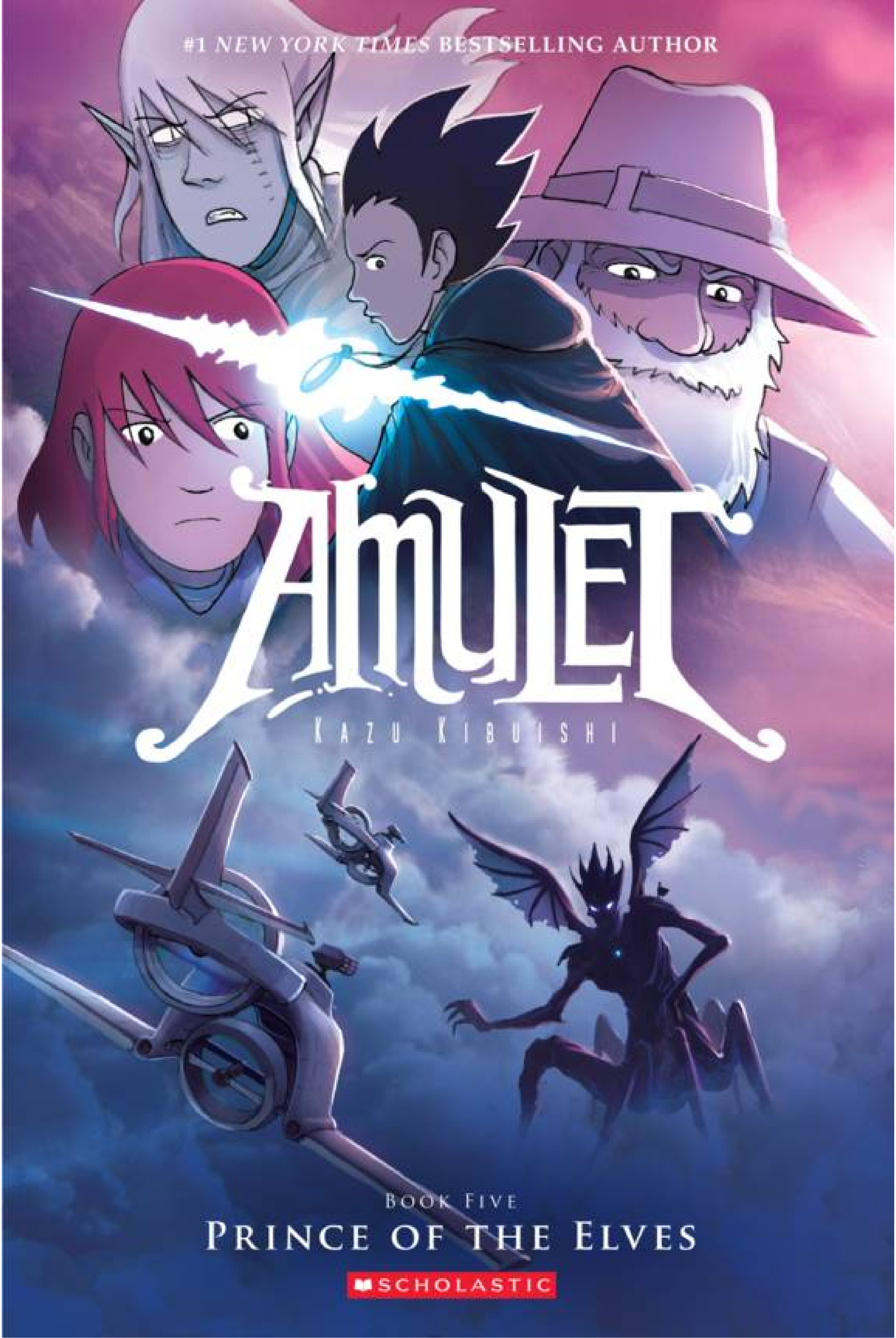

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR
AMULET
KAZU KIBUISHI
BOOK FIVE
PRINCE OF THE ELVES
SCHOLASTIC

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AMULET

KAZU KIBUISHI



BOOK FIVE

PRINCE OF THE ELVES

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SCHOLASTIC




YOU'VE NEVER HEARD ABOUT THE GREAT ERLKING?
THE STORIES ABOUT HIM ARE SO AMAZING.
HERE WE GO.
MY DAD DOESN'T LET ME READ STUFF LIKE THAT.


HE SAYS I NEED TO STAY FOCUSED ON SCHOOL.
HE DOESN'T WANT ME READING ANYTHING OTHER THAN OUR TRAINING MANUALS.
BUT I LEARN SO MUCH WHEN I READ STORIES.
THE BEST ONES ARE USUALLY TRYING TO TEACH US SOMETHING.
THAT'S WHAT HE'S AFRAID OF.
HE'S SCARED I WON'T TURN OUT LIKE HIM.
I'M SURE HE JUST WANTS WHAT'S BEST FOR YOU.
YOU DON'T KNOW MY DAD.
HE WANTS WHAT'S BEST--


--FOR EVERYONE ELSE.
I TAKE IT MAX PERFORMED WELL DURING HIS TESTS.
HE PASSED WITH FLYING COLORS.
MAX AND VIGO ARE THE BEST IN THEIR CLASS, BY A WIDE MARGIN.
PAT
ROY, I HOPE YOU'LL CONSIDER LETTING MAX SERVE ON THE GUARDIAN COUNCIL.
I DON'T OFTEN SEE YOUNG STONEKEEPERS WITH HIS LEVEL OF SKILL.


AFTER ALL, YOUR FATHER WAS A POWERFUL MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL HIMSELF.
WITH PROPER GUIDANCE, WE CAN HELP MAX BE A GREAT LEADER OF OUR PEOPLE.
WE WENT OVER THIS, ALREADY.
MAX WILL FOLLOW MY PATH, NOT MY FATHER'S.
PERHAPS FOR THE BEST.
WHERE ARE YOU GOING, MAX?
I'M MEETING WITH LAYRA.
YOU KNOW WHAT I SAID ABOUT SPENDING TIME WITH THAT FAMILY.
SHE'S MY FRIEND, DAD.


I'M HAPPY FOR YOU, MAX.
YOU SEEM UPSET.
IS SOMETHING THE MATTER?
YOU HAVEN'T HEARD?
MY PARENTS WERE TAKEN BY THE GUARD THIS MORNING.
LOOKS LIKE A WAR IS ABOUT TO BEGIN.
BUT YOUR FAMILY DIDN'T DO ANYTHING!
THIS HAS TO BE A MISTAKE!
I THINK IT'S BETTER IF YOU DON'T COME TO SEE ME, MAX.
FOR BOTH OUR SAKES.


CIELIS CHRONICLE
ELVES DECLARE WAR
HOW CAN YOU PUT HER FAMILY IN PRISON?!!
I NEED YOU TO UNDERSTAND THE GRAVITY OF THE SITUATION, MAX.
BUT THEY DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG!
ELVES DECLARE WAR
THEY'RE ELVES, MAX!
FOR ALL WE KNOW, THEY CAN BE SPIES FOR THE ELF KING!
THEY'RE NOT SPIES!!
TO BE PERFECTLY HONEST WITH YOU,
HER FAMILY IS MUCH SAFER--


-- INSIDE YARBORO PRISON.


THEY SAID THIS WAS ONLY TEMPORARY.
THIS IS A BETRAYAL.
YEARS OF WORK HELPING THEM BUILD THEIR CITIES WITH ELF TECHNOLOGY AND THIS IS HOW THEY REPAY US.
MISTER JANUS,
I'M HERE TO GET YOU OUT.
MAX?
IS LAYRA OKAY?
SHE'S FINE.
STAND BACK.
AND I'LL TAKE YOU TO HER.


COME QUIETLY.
FOLLOW ME.
THIS WAY.


MOM!
DAD!
I WON'T LET THEM SEPARATE US AGAIN.
I ARRANGED FOR AN AIRSHIP TO TAKE YOU TO FRONTERA.
FROM THERE YOU CAN MAKE YOUR WAY SAFELY INTO GULFEN.
THANK YOU, MAX.


WELCOME ABOARD!
ARE YOU COMING WITH US?
I SHOULD STAY AND MAKE SURE NO ONE COMES AFTER YOU.
WE CAN MEET IN GULFEN.
THANKS, MAX.
I'LL SEE YOU SOON.


GET THEM TO FRONTERA AND DISAPPEAR.
DON'T STOP FOR ANYONE, UNDERSTAND?
I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING, KID.




WE'VE GOT TROUBLE!
RETURN TO THE DOCK AND PREPARE TO BE BOARDED!


IF YOU FAIL TO COMPLY, WE WILL BE FORCED TO OPEN FIRE!
WHAT DO WE DO, CAPTAIN?
WHAT DO WE DO?!


CAPTAIN?
CAPTAIN!!!
WE'LL OUTRUN THEM!
STOMP!
VRRRRRR


VRRRN!!
THOOM!!


Nooo!!!






MAX GRIFFIN,
YOU HAVE BEEN SENTENCED TO FIFTY YEARS IN THE ICE PRISON OF KORTHAN FOR AIDING IN THE ESCAPE OF WAR PRISONERS.
YOU WILL ALSO FACE TRIAL IN PRISON FOR YOUR ACTIONS LEADING TO THE DEATHS OF FOUR SOLDIERS.


BEFORE WE SEND YOU OFF, DO YOU HAVE ANY LAST WORDS?


YOU WILL ALL REGRET THIS.


GET HIM OUT OF MY SIGHT.


THE PRISONER HAS ESCAPED!!
SEAL ALL THE ENTRY POINTS AND ALERT THE TOWERS!
HE'S WOUNDED...
... SO HE WON'T GET FAR!
SHIVER SHIVER




DO YOU HEAR IT, MAX?
THE SOUND FLOODING YOUR EARS...
HUF HUF HUF HUF
THAT IS THE SOUND OF YOUR DEATH APPROACHING.
HOW TRAGIC THAT YOU HAVE SO MUCH YOU STILL NEED TO ACCOMPLISH.


WE CAN HELP EACH OTHER.
JUST GIVE ME COMPLETE CONTROL.
AND I CAN KEEP YOU ALIVE LONG ENOUGH TO HAVE YOUR REVENGE.
YOUR TIME IS RUNNING OUT, MAX.
THE CHOICE IS YOURS.


FIFTY YEARS LATER


HAVE YOU BEEN SITTING THERE ALL NIGHT, LOGI?
THE KING ASKED ME TO KEEP AN EYE ON YOU.
THE SUN ISN'T UP YET.
GATHER THE TROOPS.
WE START EARLY TODAY.




THE KING IS WRONG TO PUT HIS TRUST IN A TRAITOR.
EVEN IF HE IS A STONE-KEEPER.
PRINCE TRELLIS MAY HAVE BEEN A WEAKLING, BUT HE REMAINED LOYAL TO THE ELVES.
LOYAL?!
OOF!
YOUR PRINCE DESERTED AND BETRAYED ALL OF YOU!!!


WE BOTH KNOW THAT ISN'T WHAT REALLY HAPPENED, TRAITOR.
YAAGH!
HUF HUF
IF ANYONE ELSE HAS SOMETHING TO SAY TO ME, SPEAK NOW.
OTHERWISE, YOU CAN TAKE YOUR COMPLAINTS DIRECTLY TO THE KING.
MY LOYALTY LIES WITH THE NATION OF ELVES.
QUESTION ME, AND I WILL ANSWER YOU WITH THE EDGE OF MY SWORD.


WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO, CAPTAIN?
WHAT ANY GOOD SOLDIER IS SUPPOSED TO DO!
WE STAND OUR GROUND!
BUT WE'RE OUTNUMBERED!


WE'RE HERE TO SPEAK WITH ONE OF YOUR PRISONERS.
LET US IN AND THERE WILL BE NO TROUBLE.
OUR PRISONERS DO NOT RECEIVE VISITORS!
I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU A CHOICE.
YOU CAN PLAY NICE AND OPEN THE DOOR--
FWEEEE
-- OR YOU CAN DIE,
AND I WILL DO IT MYSELF.
ERGH!






HELLO, OLD FRIEND.




KRNK KRNK
YOUR MAJESTY.
WELCOME TO THE ICE PRISON OF KORTHAN.
TELL ME ABOUT THE PRISONER.
HIS NAME IS CHRONOS, A MOUNTAIN GIANT. ONE OF THE LAST OF HIS KIND.


I BELIEVE HE WILL PROVE TO BE A POWERFUL ALLY IN OUR FIGHT AGAINST THE GUARDIAN COUNCIL.
I WOULD LIKE FOR HIM TO HAVE A PIECE OF THE MOTHER STONE.
AS PER OUR AGREEMENT, THE FIRST STONEKEEPER IS YOURS.


ZZZZNNNN
KOOM


THOOM!
YOU KEPT YOUR PROMISE.


AND NOW I EXPECT YOU TO KEEP YOURS.
OF COURSE.
I AM YOURS TO COMMAND.


ORDERS, SIR.
BEGIN OUR MARCH BY TAKING THE CITY OF FRONTERA.
STRIKE SWIFTLY, WITHOUT MERCY...
... AND LEAVE NO SURVIVORS BEHIND.








EMILY,
WAIT!
FWOOSH


SPANG!
VWIP!
URK!
THAT WAS DISAPPOINTING, TRELLIS.


I'M GOING TO NEED YOU TO BE BETTER THAN THIS.
OR ELSE WE WON'T STAND A CHANCE AGAINST THE KING.
DON'T WORRY.
I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF.
IT'S NOT YOU I'M WORRIED ABOUT.
IT'S EVERYONE ELSE WHOSE LIVES HANG IN THE BALANCE ON OUR ACTIONS.
I NEVER ASKED FOR THAT RESPONSIBILITY.


BUT IT WAS GIVEN TO YOU BY YOUR ANCESTORS, REGARDLESS OF HOW YOU FEEL.
IT IS NOW YOUR DUTY TO CARRY ON THEIR WORK.
IT WAS THE FAILURE OF THE ELVES BEFORE ME THAT BROUGHT ME HERE, FOX MAN.
THE LAST THING I WANT IS TO CARRY ON THEIR TERRIBLE WAYS.
THEN I'LL HELP YOU TAKE THEM DOWN.


SOMEDAY YOU WILL BOTH SEE THAT THERE IS A LOT ABOUT YOUR PROGENITORS YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND.
WHAT'S A PROGENITOR?


AH, EMILY, I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE.


I FOUND SOMETHING I THINK YOU SHOULD SEE.
WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE, VIGO?
ARE THEY GHOSTS?
NOT QUITE.
THIS IS HOW THE COUNCIL RECORDS ITS MINUTES, AND STONEKEEPERS CAN ACCESS THE ARCHIVES.
I'VE BEEN HERE ALL NIGHT VIEWING THE COUNCIL'S FINAL MEETINGS.
IT'S BEEN INTERESTING SEEING WHAT TRANSPIRED AFTER I LEFT.


DID YOU FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED TO THEM?
NO, NOT YET.
BUT PAY CAREFUL ATTENTION.
THIS FINAL TRANSMISSION IS WHAT I FELT YOU SHOULD SEE.
MAX.


SILAS.


VIGO,
HOW OLD ARE THESE RECORDINGS?
THE ONE YOU'RE WATCHING IS OVER FIFTY YEARS OLD.
HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE?
THAT WOULD MAKE MAX OLDER THAN MY MOM.
I HEARD STONEKEEPERS CAN TRAVEL BACK IN TIME.
MAX MUST HAVE DISCOVERED HOW TO DO IT.

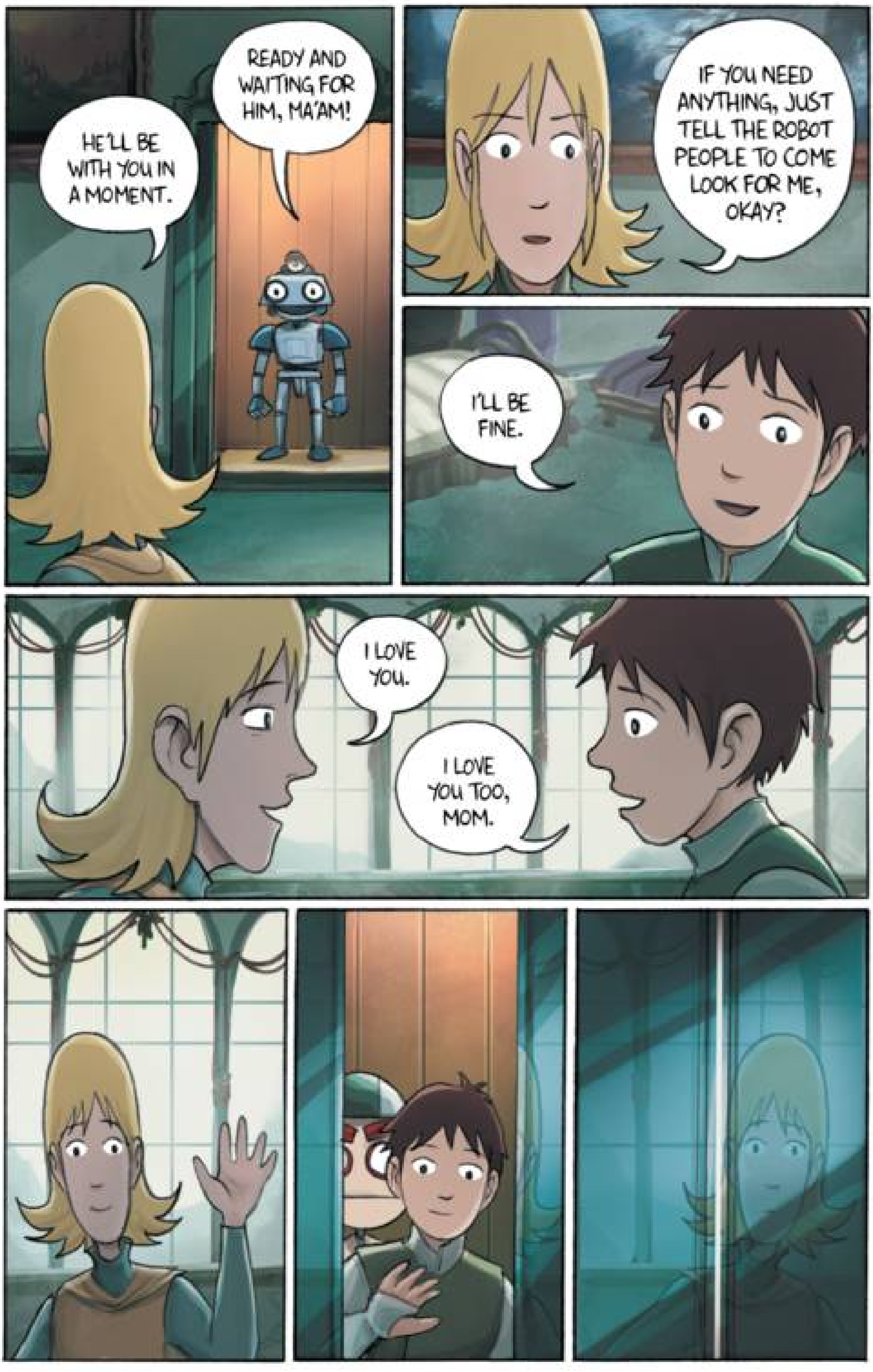

STONEKEEPERS CANNOT TRAVEL THROUGH TIME,
BUT THEY CAN ENTER THE VOID.
THE VOID IS A DREAMSPACE BUILT OF STONEKEEPER MEMORIES.
IT IS A PLACE WHERE STONEKEEPERS CAN GO TO EXAMINE THEIR PAST AND EVEN COMMUNICATE WITH ONE ANOTHER.
SILAS CHARNON ESPOUSED THE IDEA THAT THE VOID WAS REAL, AND IT COULD ALLOW YOU TO ALTER REALITY.
BUT HIS BELIEF WAS SHADOWED BY A DESIRE TO CHANGE THE EVENTS OF HIS PAST.


SOMETIMES, PERSONAL DESIRES AND AMBITIONS CAN CLOUD THE JUDGMENT OF EVEN OUR BRIGHTEST MINDS.
BUT WHAT DID SILAS DO THAT WAS SO WRONG?
HE ENCOURAGED YOUNG STONEKEEPERS TO ENTER THE VOID.
HE DID THIS WITHOUT TRULY UNDERSTANDING THE DANGERS THEY WOULD HAVE TO FACE.
OR THE PRICE THEY MIGHT ULTIMATELY PAY.
I WOULD PAY ANY PRICE TO FIX THE MISTAKES OF MY ANCESTORS.
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU ARE SAYING.
STAY OUT OF THIS.



I DO NOT KNOW HOW MAX HAS RETAINED HIS YOUTH, BUT I DID KNOW HIM ONCE.
HE WAS A STUDENT HERE AT THE ACADEMY.
WE WERE CLASSMATES.
IF WE ARE DEALING WITH THE SAME YOUNG MAN I KNEW BACK THEN --
-- OUR REAL TROUBLES HAVE ONLY JUST BEGUN.


HOLD STILL.
I SAID HOLD STILL.
THERE.
YOU LOOK GREAT.
I LOOK LIKE A WAITER, MOM.
AND IT ITCHES.
I THINK YOU LOOK HANDSOME.
YOU'VE GOT NOTHING TO COMPLAIN ABOUT, KID.
AT LEAST THEY'RE NOT MAKING YOU WEAR THIS GOOFY HELMET!


HE'LL BE WITH YOU IN A MOMENT.
READY AND WAITING FOR HIM, MA'AM!
IF YOU NEED ANYTHING, JUST TELL THE ROBOT PEOPLE TO COME LOOK FOR ME, OKAY?
I'LL BE FINE.
I LOVE YOU.
I LOVE YOU TOO, MOM.


COMMANDER NAVIN,
I AM HONORED TO BE IN YOUR PRESENCE!
I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE OUR GOOD FORTUNE!
CAN I GET YOUR AUTOGRAPH?
UH, SURE.
BUT I DON'T SEE WHY YOU'D WANT IT.
I'M NOT FAMOUS OR ANYTHING.
ALL PILOTS ARE FAMOUS HERE!


CIELIS WAS KNOWN TO HAVE THE BEST ROBOT PILOTS IN ALLEDIA.
WHAT HAPPENED TO THEM?
THEY WERE EXECUTED!
WHEN THE ELVES TOOK OVER THE GUARD, ALL OUR PILOTS WERE TOSSED OVER THE EDGE OF THE CITY.
DARK TIMES!
THE ELVES EVEN TRIED TO DISMANTLE THE COLOSSUS PROGRAM, BUT WE WERE ABLE TO SAVE A FEW UNITS BY SMUGGLING PARTS DOWN INTO THE MINES.
WE'VE BEEN REBUILDING EVER SINCE.


WHAT A MARVELOUS TURN OF EVENTS THAT YOU ARRIVED JUST AS WE WERE GETTING READY TO REACTIVATE THE COLOSSUS!
YOU WERE SIMPLY DESTINED TO BE HERE!
AND NOW THE FATE OF OUR WORLD RESTS ON YOUR SHOULDERS!
HA HA!
THESE PEOPLE ARE CRAZY.




HEY, BILL!
THE PILOTS HAVE ARRIVED!
GOOD!
WE ARE IN NEED OF FRESH MEAT FOR THE WAR EFFORT!
NAMES, PLEASE.
MY NAME IS NAVIN.
AND THIS IS COGSLEY.
THEY'RE SHRIMPY, BUT THEY'LL DO.


EVERYTHING HERE LOOKS FAMILIAR.
THAT'S NO ACCIDENT.
SILAS AND I DESIGNED HIS HOUSE TO EMULATE THE COLOSSUS.
SO YOU KNOW THESE CONTROLS, BUT THEY'RE MORE RESPONSIVE.
AND THIS MECH, UNLIKE THE CHARNON HOUSE, WAS BUILT FOR BATTLE.
LET'S SEE WHAT YOU CAN DO WITH THE REAL THING.


YOU WANT TO HEAR SOMETHING FUNNY, COGSLEY?
I MAY STILL BE PRETTY YOUNG,
AND I KNOW THERE'S A LOT LEFT FOR ME TO LEARN...
BUT I THINK THIS IS IT.
I THINK THIS IS WHAT I WAS MEANT TO DO WITH MY LIFE.
THAT WASN'T FUNNY AT ALL.
BY THE WAY,
DID YOU NOTICE THIS?
WE HAVE A THIRD SEAT.


ARE YOU NAVIN HAYES?
YES.
THAT'S ME.
MY NAME IS ALYSON HUNTER.
I'LL BE JOINING YOU IN THE NEW COLOSSUS PILOT PROGRAM.
HOW WAS I CHOSEN TO BE A PART OF THIS?
HONESTLY, YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE HERE WHO HAS BEEN TO BATTLE.
THE REST OF US HAVE ONLY TRAINED ON A SIMULATOR.
WELL,
THAT'S KIND OF HOW I GOT STARTED, TOO.

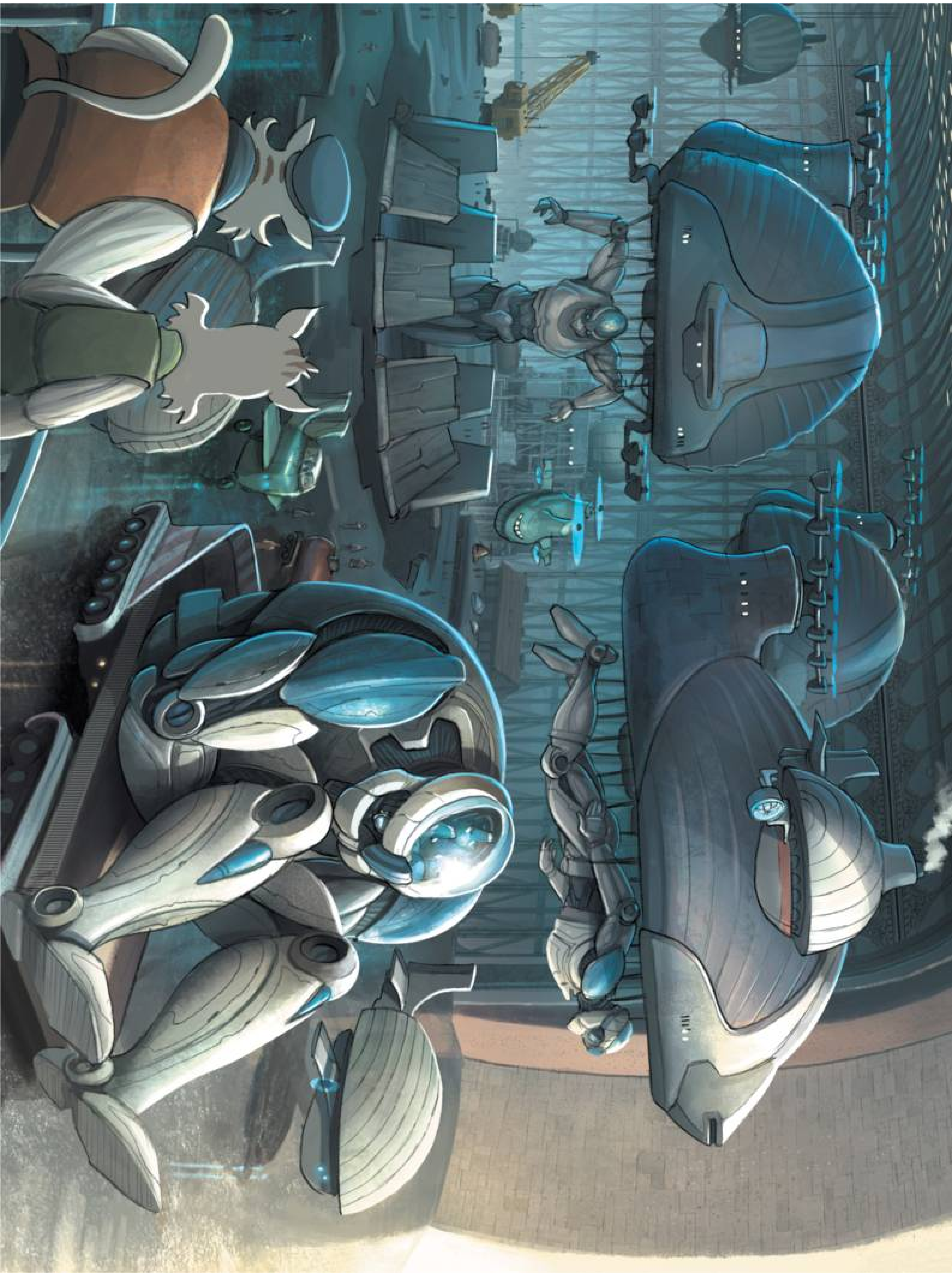



HEY.
THAT'S MY SISTER.
YOUR SISTER AND VIGO LIGHT ARE WHAT REMAINS OF THE GUARDIAN COUNCIL.
SHE WILL NEED TO GUIDE US ALL INTO BATTLE.
IT'S A HEAVY BURDEN FOR SOMEONE HER AGE.
OUR JOB WILL BE TO PROVIDE HER WITH SUPPORT FROM THE CIELIS GUARD.
IS THIS THE YOUNG COMMANDER?
NAVIN, THIS IS MY DAD, CAPTAIN TRISTAN HUNTER.
NICE TO MEET YOU, SON.
I HEARD YOU HAD SOME EXPERIENCE OUT IN THE FIELD.
WE'RE GOING TO NEED EVERY OUNCE OF IT HERE.
I'M READY TO HELP IN ANY WAY I CAN.


THE CITY OF FRONTERA...
... IT'S GONE. THEY LEFT NOTHING BEHIND.
AND IT APPEARS MAX IS LEADING THEM.
THEIR NEXT MOVE WILL BE TO TAKE THE CITY OF LUCIEN.
LUCIEN'S ARMY IS FORMIDABLE, BUT THEY WILL BE OVERCOME.
IT WILL SIMPLY BE A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE THEY FALL.
THEN WE NEED TO SHOW THEM THAT THE GUARDIAN COUNCIL HAS RETURNED.
BUT YOU'VE SEEN THE STATE OF THINGS HERE.
WE ARE NOT READY.
WE'LL NEVER BE READY.
AND IF WE CHOOSE TO WAIT, WE'LL MISS OUR CHANCE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.



WE WON'T BE ABLE TO DO THIS ALONE...
...SO WE NEED TO HELP WHOEVER IS LEFT TO FIGHT BACK.
THE LEAST WE CAN DO IS GIVE THEM HOPE.




DO YOU KNOW WHAT THIS MEANS, RICO?
THAT WE'RE GOING TO WAR?
IT MEANS WE'RE GOING HOME.
AND PEOPLE WILL KNOW THAT CIELIS REALLY DOES EXIST!
I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE THE LOOK ON EVERYONE'S FACES!
THEY'LL NEVER DOUBT ME AGAIN!
I THINK THAT SHOULD BE THE LEAST OF OUR CONCERNS RIGHT NOW, ENZO.


BROTHER, TELL ME MORE ABOUT HOW TO ACCESS EVENTS OF THE PAST.
THERE MUST BE A WAY I CAN LEARN TO DO THIS.
MASTERING THIS ABILITY WILL TAKE MANY YEARS, TRELLIS.
AND IT IS MUCH TOO DANGEROUS.
LISTEN TO THE OTHERS AND HEED THEIR WARNING.
STAY AWAY FROM SUCH DARK MAGIC.
WHY SHOULD I LISTEN TO THEM...
...WHEN THEY DON'T LISTEN TO ME?

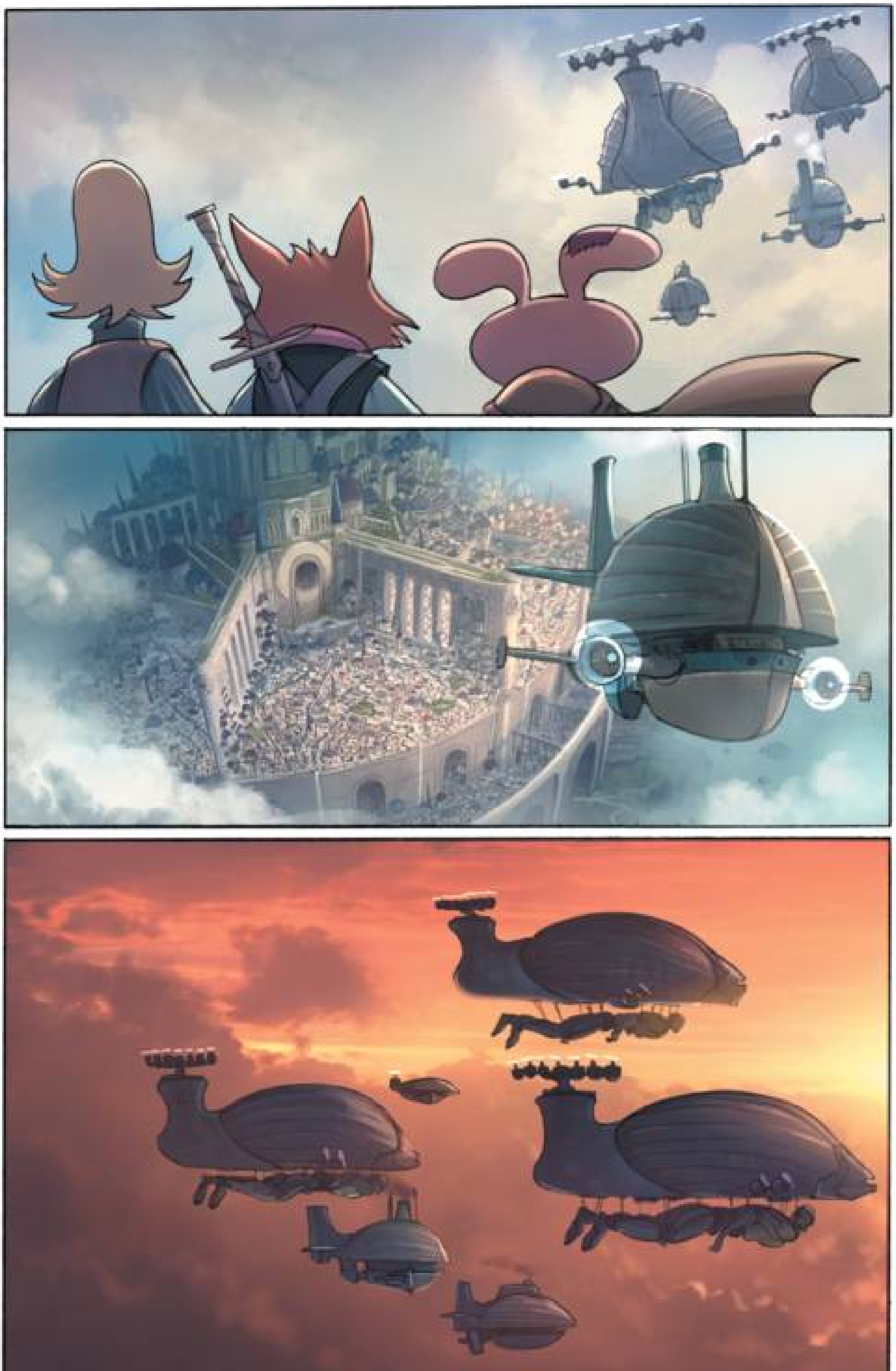

THE SOLDIERS OF THE GUARD ARE ALL SO YOUNG.
ARE YOU SURE THEY'RE READY FOR THIS FIGHT?
WE ALL HAVE TO START SOMEWHERE.
WELCOME ABOARD, YOUR HIGHNESS!
ENZO!
DON'T CALL ME THAT!


I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU GUYS.
WOULDN'T MISS THIS FOR THE WORLD!
NOT EVERY DAY YOU GET ASKED TO ESCORT THE GUARDIAN COUNCIL!
NOW, WHERE'S YOUR LITTLE BROTHER?
NAVIN'S FLYING WITH THE OTHER COLOSSUS PILOTS.
IT WILL GIVE THEM SOME TIME TO GET ACQUAINTED.
COLOSSUS PILOT!
WELL, WHADDYA KNOW.
THE LITTLE RUNT'S GRADUATED TO THE BIG TIME.
HE'S ALL GROWN-UP!


DO YOU WANT ME TO HOLD ON TO DAGNO?
I CAN KEEP HIM WITH ME IN THE CABIN.
THAT'S OKAY.
HE WON'T WANT TO LEAVE HIS MAMA'S SIDE.
LOOKS LIKE WE'RE FLYING CARGO CLASS!
STAY SAFE, COGSLEY.
SEE YOU IN LUCIEN, CHIEF!

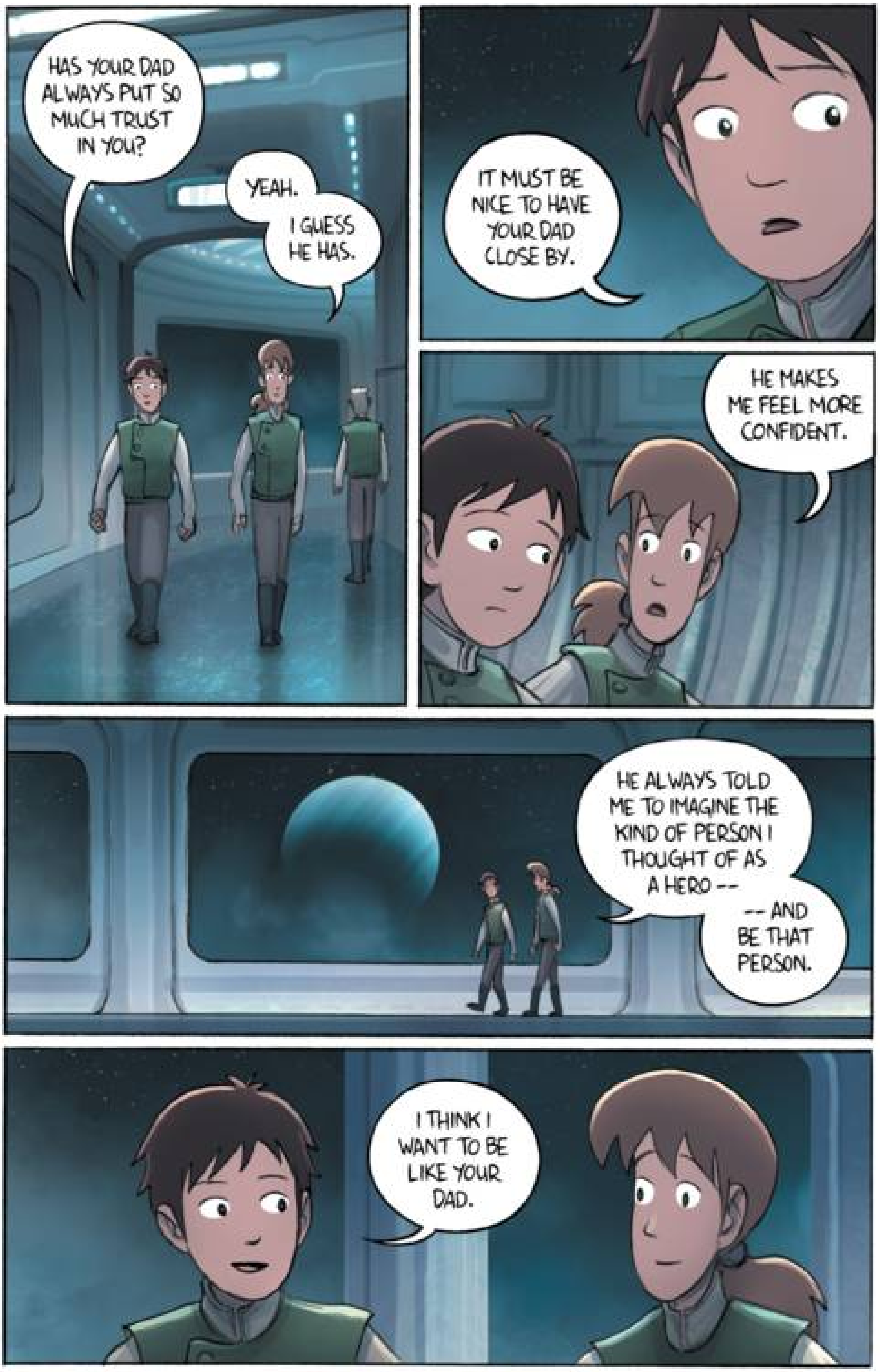

FUEL
KEEP MOVING AND FIND AN OPEN SEAT.







TRELLIS, AT LEAST LET THE OTHERS KNOW.
I REALLY FEEL THAT YOU SHOULDN'T DO THIS.
AND WHY NOT, BROTHER?
DO YOU NOT WANT TO FIX OUR PAST?
WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND IT BEFORE WE CAN REPAIR IT.
AND IF SOMETHING WERE TO GO WRONG,
I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO COME HELP YOU.


HAS YOUR DAD ALWAYS PUT SO MUCH TRUST IN YOU?
YEAH.
I GUESS HE HAS.
IT MUST BE NICE TO HAVE YOUR DAD CLOSE BY.
HE MAKES ME FEEL MORE CONFIDENT.
HE ALWAYS TOLD ME TO IMAGINE THE KIND OF PERSON I THOUGHT OF AS A HERO --
-- AND BE THAT PERSON.
I THINK I WANT TO BE LIKE YOUR DAD.




YOU'RE
STILL WAITING
FOR A GAME?
THE GAME
HAS ALREADY
BEGUN.


I'M JUST WAITING FOR MY OPPONENT TO MAKE A MOVE.
I CAME HERE TO ASK YOU ABOUT MAX.
WHO IS HE WORKING FOR, AND WHY?
THE ELF KING IS A VERY PERSUASIVE INDIVIDUAL.
HIS ABILITY TO INFLUENCE OTHERS IS HIS GREATEST WEAPON AGAINST US.
THE ELF KING MUST HAVE MADE MAX AN OFFER HE JUST COULDN'T REFUSE.


BUT TRELLIS SAID THAT THE KING WAS DEAD.
I THINK MAX AND THE KING ARE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF SOMEBODY -- OR SOMETHING -- ELSE.
HMM...
YOU SUSPECT THAT THEY ARE BEING CONTROLLED BY THEIR STONES.
YES.
I NEED YOU TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THEM.
YOU'RE A VERY SMART STONEKEEPER, EMILY.
I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT YOU WILL FIND THE ANSWERS YOU SEEK WITHOUT HELP FROM ME.


DOES MAX'S STONE HAVE A VOICE?
GOOD LUCK, YOUNG MASTER.
WAIT!


WAIT!




TROUBLE SLEEPING?
I'M FINE.
PLEASE CLOSE THE DOOR.
CAN I ASK YOU A QUESTION?
OF COURSE.
AT THE ACADEMY...
WHAT DID YOU MEAN WHEN YOU SAID THAT SILAS DIDN'T UNDERSTAND THE DANGERS OF ENTERING THE VOID?
HE NEVER EXPERIENCED THE CONSEQUENCES FIRSTHAND.


NOT LIKE I HAVE.
I WAS A FATHER AND A HUSBAND ONCE.
MY WIFE, MIRIAM, PASSED AWAY WHEN DAVID, MY SON, WAS TEN YEARS OLD AND I WAS LEFT TO RAISE HIM ON MY OWN.
I EVENTUALLY PASSED MY STONE'S POWER TO DAVID AND BEGAN TRAINING HIM FOR THE GUARDIAN COUNCIL.
HE GREW TO BECOME MY BRIGHTEST STUDENT.
BUT UNDER THE SURFACE, DAVID WANTED TO BE WITH HIS MOTHER AGAIN MORE THAN ANYTHING.


THIS WAS AROUND THE TIME SILAS BEGAN LECTURING ABOUT THE POSSIBILITIES OF TIME TRAVEL USING THE STONES.
I SHOULD HAVE REALIZED THAT DAVID WAS BECOMING MORE INTERESTED IN THE IDEA THAN THE OTHER STUDENTS.
HE SAW IT AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO CORRECT WHAT HE FELT WAS A MISTAKE -- HE WANTED TO BRING HIS MOTHER BACK.
USING HIS POWERS, DAVID ATTEMPTED TO TRAVEL BACK TO SAVE HIS MOTHER.
BUT HE ONLY WENT INTO A DEEP SLEEP, AND DID NOT WAKE FOR DAYS.
I SAT AT HIS BEDSIDE WHILE HE SPOKE TO SOMEONE IN HIS SLEEP.
WHEN HE FINALLY OPENED HIS EYES, HE LOOKED TERRIFIED.
THEN HE WAS GONE.


SOON AFTER THAT, THE STONE RETURNED ITSELF TO ME.
WHO WAS HE TALKING TO?
I ASSUMED DAVID BELIEVED HE WAS TALKING TO HIS MOTHER.
BUT HE SPOKE ABOUT THINGS HE NEVER WOULD HAVE WITH HER.
THAT'S WHEN I REALIZED HE WAS SPEAKING TO THE STONE.
I WISHED HE FELT HE COULD TALK TO ME INSTEAD OF TURNING TO HIS IMAGINARY FRIENDS FOR HELP.


THERE'S SOMETHING I NEED TO TELL YOU, VIGO.
RUMBLE RUMBLE
K-BOOM!
THE OTHER SHIPS...
WYVERNS?


THAT'S NO WYVERN.
BOOM!

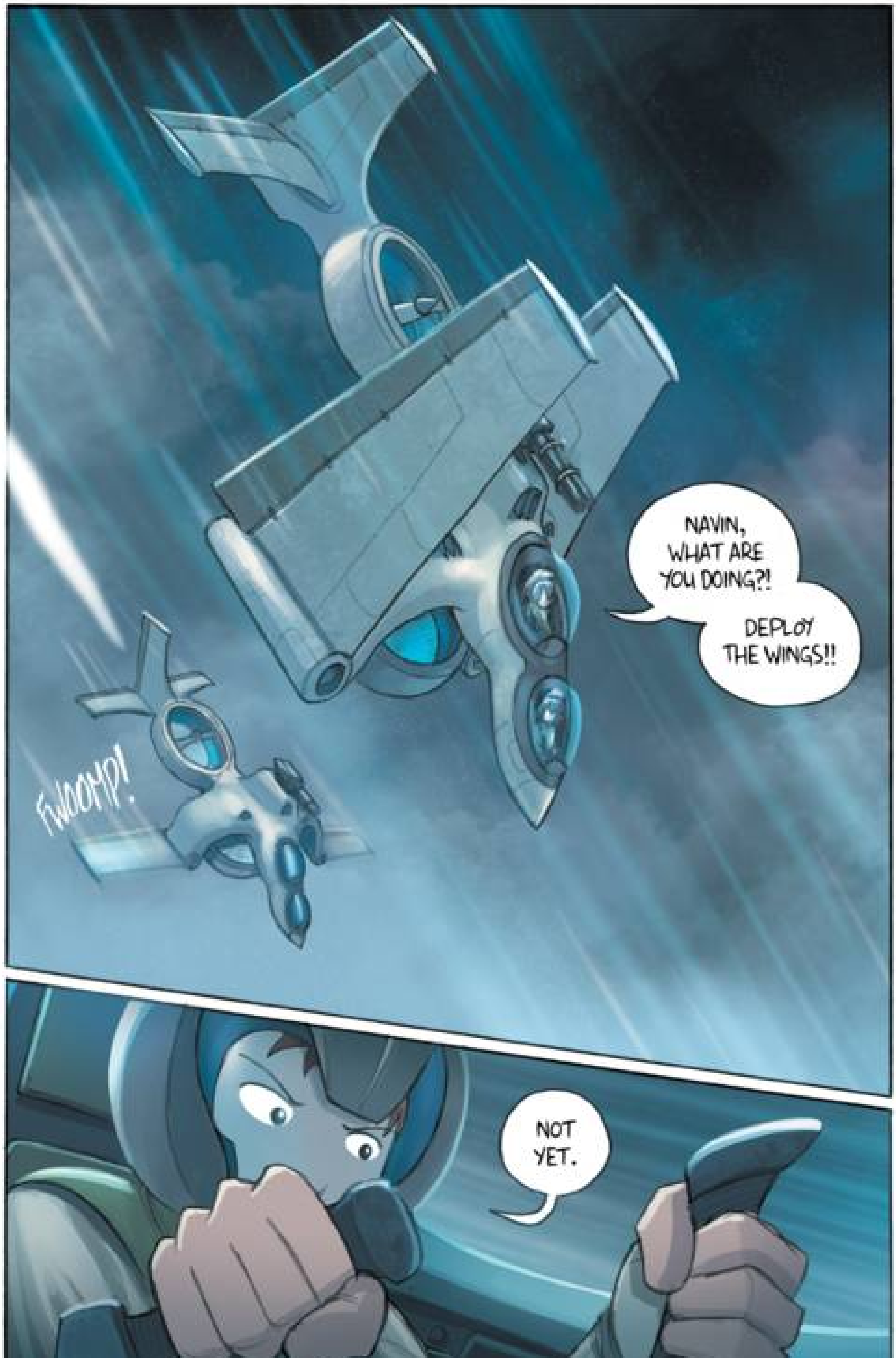

I'LL DO WHAT I CAN TO SLOW THEM DOWN.
GO GET TRELLIS.
GO NOW!
TRELLIS!
EMILY, I'M SORRY.
WHAT HAPPENED HERE?
I TRIED TO STOP HIM, BUT HE JUST WOULDN'T LISTEN.
WE NEED TO WAKE HIM UP, LUGER.
I -- CAN'T.
NOT ANY-MORE.
BUT YOU --
-- YOU CAN.


VRRRRRR


CHOOM!!
DAD!!
THE OTHER FRIGATE!
LOOK AWAY, ALY!
I NEED YOU AND NAVIN TO REMAIN FOCUSED!
IF WE DON'T GET FIGHTERS OUT THERE NOW, THIS SHIP IS GOING TO GO DOWN, TOO!
I NEED TO STAY AND HELP THE OTHERS.
BE STRONG AND FLY SAFE, ALY!


FUEL
HEY, CHIEF!
DON'T LEAVE US STRANDED HERE, OKAY?
WE STILL HAVE A LOT OF WORK TO DO!
I'LL BE RIGHT BACK, COGSLEY.


NAVIN, TEST THE WINGS.
THESE SILVERHAWKS HAVEN'T BEEN FLOWN IN A WHILE.
DROP ON MY MARK!
VRRRRNN
THREE...
TWO...
...ONE!!
KCHUNG!
KCHUNG!


NAVIN, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
DEPLOY THE WINGS!!
FWOOMP!
NOT YET.


SZRAK!!
FWOOMP!!




NOW TAKE US IN CLOSE!
I'LL LET YOU DO THE FLYING, HAYES!
I JUST NEED ONE CLEAR SHOT.




THOOM!!
STAY FOCUSED!
I'VE GOT A LOCK!!
I GOT HIM!!!


VWOM!
HE JUST STOPPED IT!
PULL UP, NAVIN! TAKE US UP!!!


AAGH!




WHOA!
HOLD TIGHT, RICO!


LONG TIME NO SEE, VIGO.
VIGO!
I NEED YOUR HELP!
EMILY, STAY AWAY!
AND DON'T MOVE!


ALL OF MY TARGETS IN ONE PLACE.
WHAT KIND OF STRATEGY IS THIS?!

I HONESTLY EXPECTED MORE FROM THE BOTH OF YOU.

HE CAN'T TAKE US BOTH DOWN AT ONCE.
HE WILL HAVE TO CHOOSE.

READY WHEN YOU ARE, VIGO.


NOW!


ENZO, WE LOST A WING!





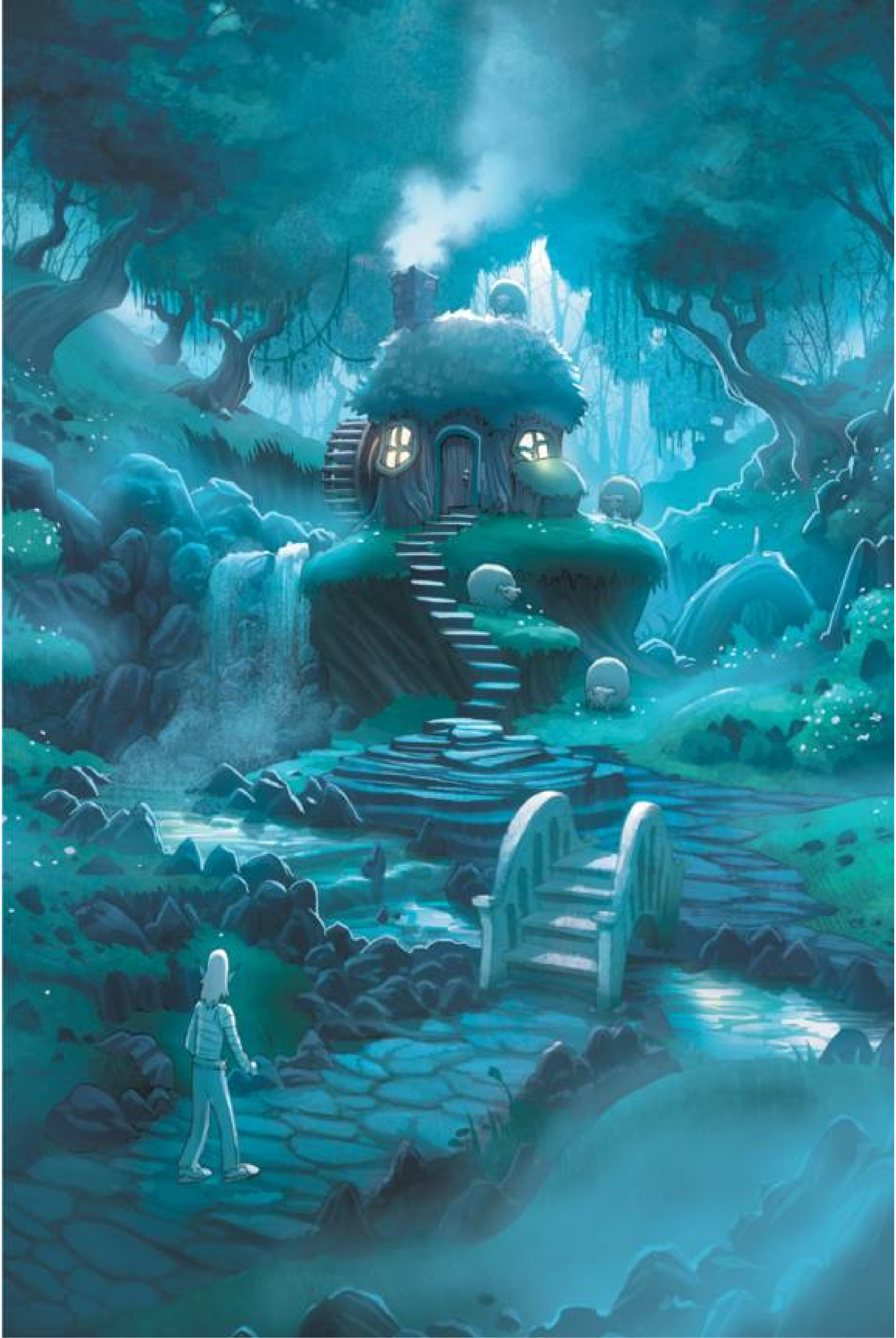







WHY ARE YOU FOLLOWING ME?


MY BROTHER TOLD ME NOT TO TALK WITH YOU.
YOU'LL WANT TO SPEAK WITH UNCLE VIRGIL.
HE'S THE ONE WHO FOUND YOU AND MENDED YOUR ARM.
HIS HOUSE IS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE POND.
YOU WON'T HAVE TO KNOCK.
HE IS ALREADY EXPECTING YOU.




AH, YOU'RE AWAKE.


LET ME GET YOU A SHIRT.
YOU MUST BE FREEZING.
I LOOKED UP AND SAW YOU FALL OUT OF THE SKY.
IT'S A TRUE MIRACLE THAT YOU WERE ABLE TO SURVIVE.
I THOUGHT YOU DIED.
WHERE IS EVERYONE?
POOR BOY, YOU MUST BE DELIRIOUS.
WHEN YOU FELL, YOU WERE QUITE ALONE.


HERE,
TRY THIS ON.
MY FATHER'S ROBE.
HE WAS THE VILLAGE HEALER, A DOCTOR.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO HEAR A FUNNY STORY ABOUT HIM?
NO, THANKS.
I SHOULD REALLY BE GOING.
BUT WHERE ARE YOU GOING TO GO?


I HAVE TO GO AND FIND MY FRIENDS. THEY NEED MY HELP.
I SWEAR NO ONE WAS WITH YOU.
I STILL NEED TO SEE FOR MYSELF.
THANK YOU... FOR EVERYTHING.
TRELLIS!
LUGER?


WHAT DID I TELL YOU, TRELLIS?
FSK!
PEOPLE WILL COME AND ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT DAD.
YOU MUST NOT TALK TO THEM.
DON'T WORRY, LUGER.
I WASN'T TALKING WITH HIM.
HE WASN'T ASKING ABOUT DAD, ANYWAY.
WHO ARE YOU?
WE KNOW EVERYBODY ON THIS ISLAND.
AND I HAVE NEVER SEEN YOU HERE BEFORE.


LEAVE HIM ALONE, LUGER.
HE'S WITH ME.
AM I NOT ALLOWED TO HAVE FRIENDS ON THIS ISLAND?
YOU DON'T KNOW THIS ELF, UNCLE VIRGIL.
DON'T THINK I WON'T REPORT YOU JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE FAMILY.
HOW VERY NOBLE OF YOU.
COME ALONG NOW.
I NEED YOUR HELP SORTING SOME BOOKS.


STAY AWAY FROM UNCLE VIRGIL.
FATHER WILL DEAL WITH HIM LATER.
DON'T MIND MY NEPHEW LUGER.
HE'S UNDER A LOT OF PRESSURE NOW THAT HIS FATHER IS THE KING.
WHY ARE YOU HELPING ME?
SOMETHING TELLS ME THAT IT'S MY DUTY TO HELP.
AND UNLIKE MANY OF THE ELVES ON THIS ISLAND,
I HAVE A VERY GOOD SENSE OF WHO I NEED TO TRUST.


YOU MENTIONED YOU WANTED ME TO HELP YOU SORT SOME BOOKS.
I WOULD LIKE TO REPAY YOU SOMEHOW.
GOOD!
HOP IN THE BOAT AND WE'LL BE ON OUR WAY.
THE LIBRARY IS LOCATED IN THE MIDDLE OF THE LAKE.
PUT PUT PUT PUT PUT
I THINK YOU'LL LIKE IT THERE.
PUT PUT PUT PUT PUT PUT
WITH SO MANY ELVES BEING DRAFTED FOR THE WAR, IT'S BEEN HARD TO FIND GOOD HELP.
YOU CAME AT A GOOD TIME.




VIRGIL,
WAS THIS BUILT RECENTLY?
THE LIBRARY IS ONE OF THE FIRST GULFEN STRUCTURES.
THEN WHY IS THE KING SHOWN HOLDING IT UP?
THE ERLKING?
I SEE SOMEONE HASN'T BEEN STUDYING THEIR HISTORY.
THAT IS THE ERLKING.
EVERY TIME A NEW KING IS CROWNED, THEY MUST TAKE THE VISAGE OF THE ERLKING.
HE WAS OUR FIRST LEADER.
BY WEARING HIS MASK, THE KING IS SWORN TO CARRY THE WEIGHT OF OUR PAST ON HIS SHOULDERS.


THIS LIBRARY WAS BUILT TO HONOR THAT TRADITION.
THE BOOKS CONTAINED WITHIN THESE WALLS DOCUMENT THE MANY LIVES WHO HAVE DEDICATED THEMSELVES TO FURTHERING THE ADVANCEMENT OF ELFKIND.
IT IS HOW WE HAVE PROGRESSED FASTER THAN ALL OTHER SETTLERS ON ALLEDIAN SOIL.
IT'S MOST UNFORTUNATE FOR THIS CURRENT GENERATION THAT MY BROTHER IS NOT AN AVID READER OF HISTORY.
IF HE WAS, HE WOULD SEE ALL THE WARNING SIGNS.
WARNING SIGNS?
HISTORY HAS A TENDENCY TO REPEAT ITSELF.
CAN I GET ANYTHING FOR YOU, MASTER VIRGIL?
THANK YOU, LOGI.
BUT WE'D RATHER BE LEFT TO OURSELVES.
YES, OF COURSE.


I'VE BEEN VERY CONCERNED WITH THE DIRECTION THIS WAR IS HEADED.
WITH JUST A QUICK GLANCE AT OUR HISTORY, I BEGAN TO UNDER-STAND WHY.
I RECENTLY FOUND SOMETHING VERY INTERESTING IN A BOOK ABOUT OUR PAST KINGS.
AH, GOOD. IT'S STILL HERE.
LEVITAS. THE FOURTH KING.


HE BECAME AN ENDURING HISTORICAL FIGURE FOR TWO REASONS.
THE FIRST WAS HIS PENCHANT FOR CONFLICT THAT SENT US INTO A CIVIL WAR.
HIS RULE MARKS THE DEADLIEST PERIOD IN ELF HISTORY.
THE SECOND WAS THAT MANY PEOPLE CLAIMED HE WAS POSSESSED BY HIS STONE.
THEY SAY HE SPOKE TO IT.
DO STONES NOT HAVE VOICES?
THE STONE IS A MEDIUM, NOT A MESSENGER.
LET ME SHOW YOU SOMETHING.
OH, GOOD.
I HID THIS ONE WELL.
I SEARCHED EVERY WING IN THIS LIBRARY FOR ANOTHER MENTION OF THE VOICE, AND I CAME UP EMPTY...
...UNTIL I FOUND THIS BOOK.


THE AUTHOR IS HUMAN, AND HE BELIEVES THAT THE STONE-SHARD AMULETS WERE CREATED TO PROVIDE THE STONEKEEPERS WITH THREE THINGS:
POWER, COMMUNICATION, AND TRAVEL.
THE AMULET GRANTS ITS KEEPER THE ABILITY TO WIELD THE KINETIC ENERGY OF THE MOTHER STONE.
BUT IT ALSO GRANTS THEM THE ABILITY TO COMMUNICATE AND TO TRAVEL USING A PLANE OF EXISTENCE PARALLEL TO OUR OWN.
WHEN THEY DO, STONEKEEPERS MAY FIND THEMSELVES UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF A DARK, GOVERNING SPIRIT -- A "VOICE."
WHY DOES THIS INTEREST YOU, VIRGIL?
BECAUSE MY BROTHER SPEAKS TO HIS STONE.
AND YOU BELIEVE HE IS SPEAKING TO THIS DARK SPIRIT?
LOOK AT THIS.


THE VOICE APPEARS EVERY TIME THE ELVES ENTER A TIME OF WAR AND STRIFE.
THIS IS FOLLOWED BY 500 YEARS OF PEACE BEFORE THE CYCLE BEGINS ANEW.
MY BROTHER WAS BORN EXACTLY 500 YEARS FROM THE DEATH OF KING LEVITAS.
MAKE OF THAT WHAT YOU WILL, BUT I FIND THE PATTERNS ALARMING.
FLIP FLIP FLIP
VIRGIL--
WHERE DID YOU GET THIS?
On Stone Power by Silas Charnon
IF THE KING FINDS THIS BOOK HE WILL HAVE YOU EXECUTED!
WHY ARE YOU TRUSTING ME WITH THIS INFORMATION?!


I'M TRUSTING YOU BECAUSE YOU NEED TO KNOW ALL OF THIS.
YOU NEED TO TAKE THIS KNOWLEDGE BACK WITH YOU.
YOU KNOW WHO I AM?
I RAISED YOU, TRELLIS.
I WOULD RECOGNIZE YOU NO MATTER HOW OLD OR YOUNG YOU WERE.
I CAME BACK TO TRY AND FIX THINGS.
IT'S BETTER THAT YOU FOCUS ON DOING WHAT'S RIGHT FOR THE FUTURE.


SHHHAAA
WHAT WAS THAT?
THE VOICE.
HE'S GOING TO COME AFTER YOU NOW.
YOU BETTER LEAVE.
HOW DO I GET BACK?
YOU ARRIVED IN THE WILLOW GROVE ON THAT BANK.
TAKE THE BOAT BACK TO THAT SPOT.



WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO YOU, VIRGIL?
BEST NOT TO WORRY ABOUT ME.
WHATEVER HAPPENS IS SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN TO BRING YOU HERE.
JUST PROMISE ME YOU WILL REMEMBER ALL OF THIS.
REMEMBER THAT YOU COME FROM A GOOD FAMILY.
AND THE SHORTCOMINGS OF MY GENERATION DO NOT HAVE TO EXTEND ON TO YOURS.
MAKE US PROUD, TRELLIS.


GET OUT OF HERE.
GO NOW!
KOOSH!


FASH!
COUGH
COUGH!
SHRK!


HUF HUF
HUF
HUF
HUF


FWIP!!
AGH!!
GET OUT!
GET OUT OF MY HEAD!!!


BOOM!!
DRIP
DRIP
EMILY?


GET UP, TRELLIS!
HOW DID YOU FIND ME?
HOW DID YOU KNOW WHERE I WOULD BE IN THE PAST?
WE'RE NOT IN THE PAST, TRELLIS.
WE'RE IN YOUR MEMORIES!
AND I NEED YOU TO WAKE UP FROM THIS DREAM!
A DREAM?


THIS FEELS SO REAL.
WHAT IS REAL IS THAT WE'RE ALL IN GREAT DANGER.
AND UNLESS YOU DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT, WE ARE ALL GOING TO DIE.
WHEN YOU WAKE UP, WE NEED YOU TO SAVE US!
SAVE YOU?
I DON'T UNDERSTAND.


SZRAK!
YOU KNOW I'M NOT A GOOD STONEKEEPER, EMILY.
THAT'S NOT TRUE!
YOU JUST NEED TO HAVE CONFIDENCE!
YOU MIGHT NOT FIGHT LIKE I DO,
BUT YOU ARE BETTER THAN I AM AT USING YOUR POWER TO HELP OTHERS.
AND WE NEED YOUR HELP.
NOW MORE THAN EVER.


SO WAKE UP AND DO SOMETHING!
EMILY, WAIT!!








HWEEEEE




THOOOM








EMILY.
EMILY, WAKE UP.
I KNOW HOW I CAN HELP NOW.


THANK YOU FOR COMING TO GET ME.
EMILY WOKE YOU FROM THE VOID?
YES, BUT WHY IS SHE STILL ASLEEP?
SHE MUST STILL BE INSIDE.
HER BREATHING SEEMS REGULAR.
SHE'S IN CONTROL.


THAT MEANS SHE'S STILL ALIVE.
HOW DO WE WAKE HER UP?
YOU'RE THE REASON SHE'S IN THERE.
SO YOU'RE GOING BACK THERE TO GET HER OUT.
AND HOW DO I GET US BOTH BACK SAFELY?
WE WOULD NOT BE STANDING HERE IF YOU DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO, TRELLIS.


ANYTHING YOU DO OUT HERE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO DO IN THE VOID.
LIKEWISE, IF YOU DIE IN THE VOID, YOU WILL DIE OUT HERE.
STAY AWAY FROM MALEVOLENT SPIRITS.
THE VOID IS, AFTER ALL, RULED BY THEM.
I'LL STAND WATCH AND KEEP YOU BOTH SAFE.
IF YOU DO NOT RETURN IN TEN MINUTES, OR IF I SEE YOU PANIC, I WILL COME AND FIND YOU, UNDERSTAND?
YOU'RE NOT GIVING ME MUCH TIME, OLD MAN.
I DON'T HAVE MUCH TO GIVE.
GOOD LUCK, TRELLIS.


EMILY!


URK!
EMILY!
SH!


WHERE ARE WE?
WE'RE NEAR THE ICE PRISON OF KORTHAN.
IS THIS YOUR MEMORY?
NO.
LOOK.
MAX.
HE MUST BE DREAMING ABOUT THIS NEARBY.
I ENTERED EASILY, SO HE'S ALSO WEAK.
I'M HERE TO BRING YOU BACK.
WE SHOULD GO BEFORE--
WAIT.


YOUR TIME IS RUNNING OUT, MAX.
KOF! KOF!
IF YOU GIVE UP, LAYRA WILL HAVE DIED FOR NOTHING.
IF YOU DIE, YOU WILL LET THEM WIN.
GIVE ME CONTROL AND WE CAN MAKE THEM PAY.
I... ...AM...
...YOURS...




THANK YOU.


SHK!


EMILY!
HE KNOWS WE'RE HERE!
WE HAVE TO GO BACK NOW!!!
HOLD TIGHT!






EMILY!
YOU LIED TO ME!!!
YOU HEARD THE VOICE.
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME, EMILY?


I HAVE NEVER TRUSTED HIM, BUT HE HELPED ME.
THE VOICE IS WHAT BROUGHT ME HERE.
THE VOICE BROUGHT ALL OF US HERE.
HE IS THE ONE WHO HAS TAKEN CONTROL OF MY FATHER.
AND HE USED THE NATION OF ELVES TO START THIS WAR.
MY ANCESTORS WERE NEVER TO BLAME FOR THIS.
I WAS WRONG.


TRELLIS--
IF WE WORK TOGETHER, WE'LL STOP HIM.
WHAT IF THAT'S PART OF HIS PLAN?
THERE THEY ARE, NAVIN!


EM!
I THOUGHT YOU WERE GONE.
I WOULD NEVER LET THAT HAPPEN TO YOU.


YOU FELLAS GOT OUT OKAY?
WE'RE A LITTLE BANGED UP BUT WE'RE STILL IN BUSINESS!
PUTTING IN THIS SPARE ENGINE HAS ALREADY PAID OFF!


WHAT HAPPENED TO THE REST OF THE CONVOY?
WHEN YOU FELL, THE ATTACK SUBSIDED.
THE BEAST FOLLOWED YOU INTO THE CLOUDS.
THEN WE BETTER GET MOVING BEFORE IT COMES BACK.
ARE YOU OKAY, ALY?!
THE BATTLE IS MOVING TO THE GROUND!
I'M FINE, DAD.
IT'S ALL CLEAR DOWN HERE.
WE FOUND THE GUARDIAN COUNCIL AND ARE HEADING BACK TO YOU.
WE COULD USE AN ESCORT BACK TO THE SHIP.
I'LL SEND TWO SILVERHAWKS TO COVER YOU. JUST FLY SAFE.


THANKS FOR COMING BACK TO GET ME.
LET'S JUST SAY WE'RE EVEN.

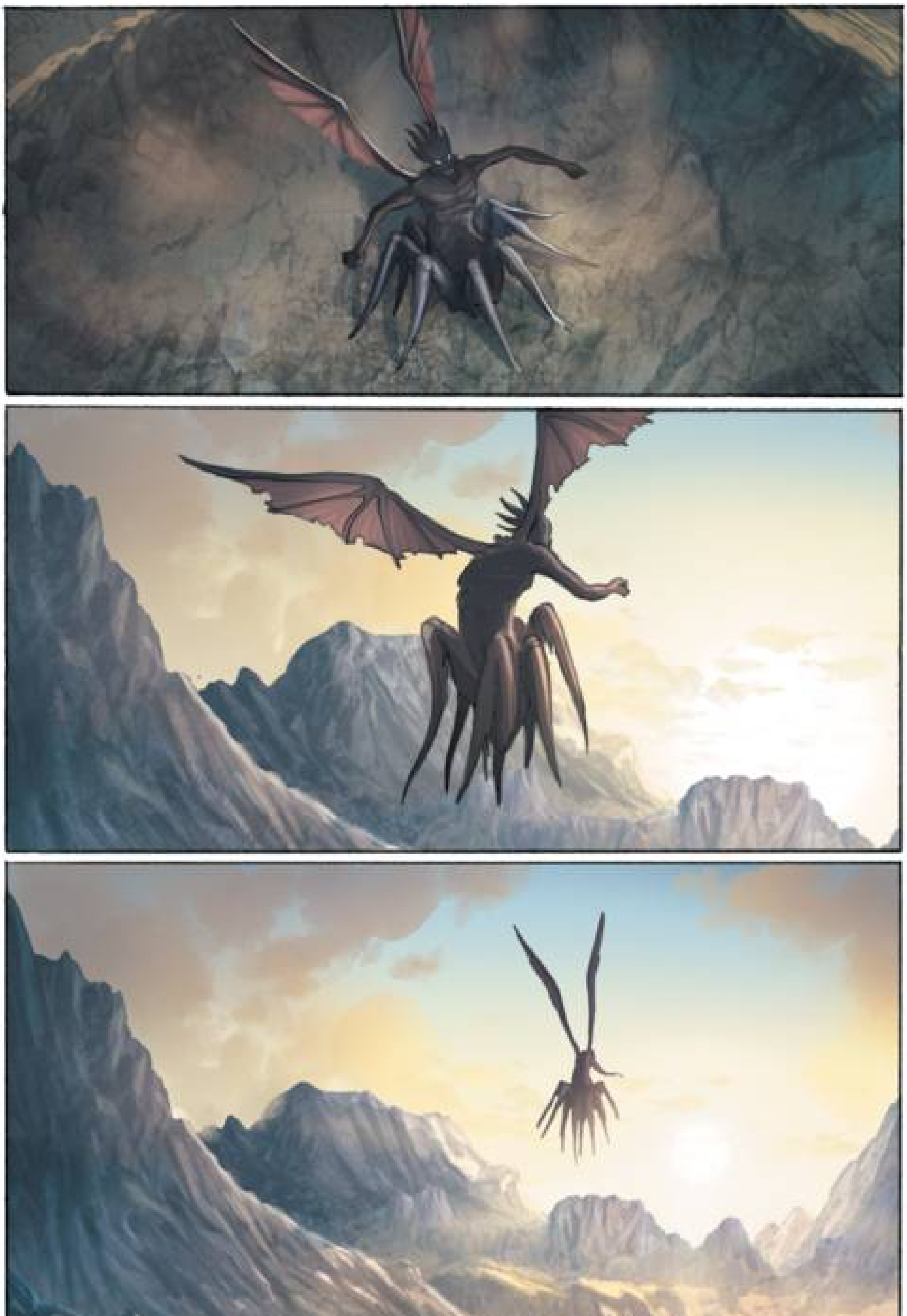





NNGHH...
STAND UP, MAX.
YOU HAVE MORE WORK TO DO.
I... I CAN'T MOVE...
I THINK... ...MY BONES... ...ARE BROKEN.
AGH!
SH-KRIK!
SH-KRAK!!
PLEASE, STOP!

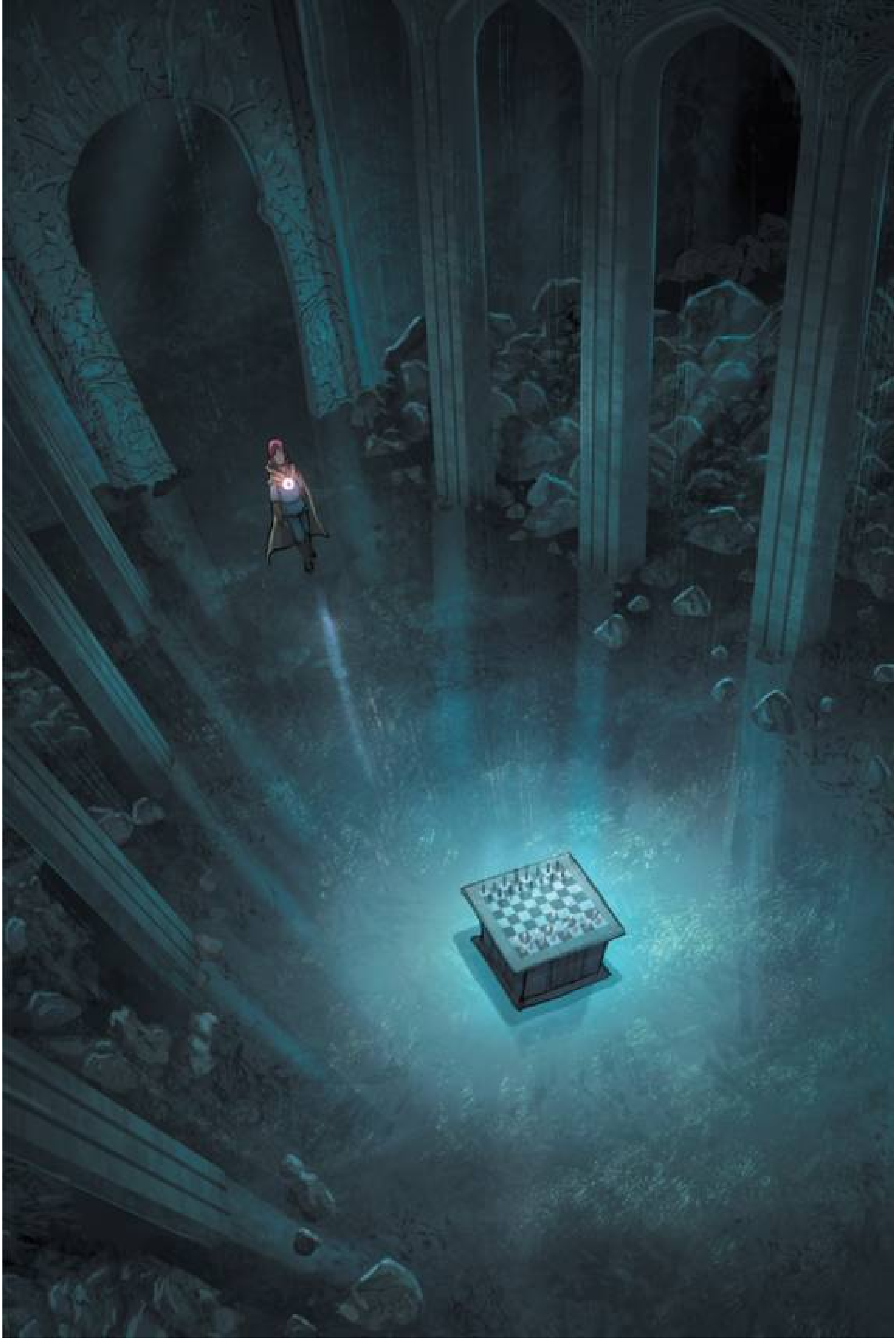

THERE.
I HAVE MENDED THEM.
NOW GET UP.
PLEASE... ...NO MORE.
WE HAD A DEAL, MAX.
AND YOU HAVE YET TO HONOR YOUR END OF THE BARGAIN.
WHAT WOULD LAYRA SAY IF SHE SAW YOU NOW?


LAYRA...
I'M SO...
...SORRY, LAYRA.
PLEASE...
...PLEASE...
...FORGIVE ME.




SPLISH!








SHOW YOURSELF!
EXCUSE ME.
COME OUT AND FACE ME, YOU COWARD!

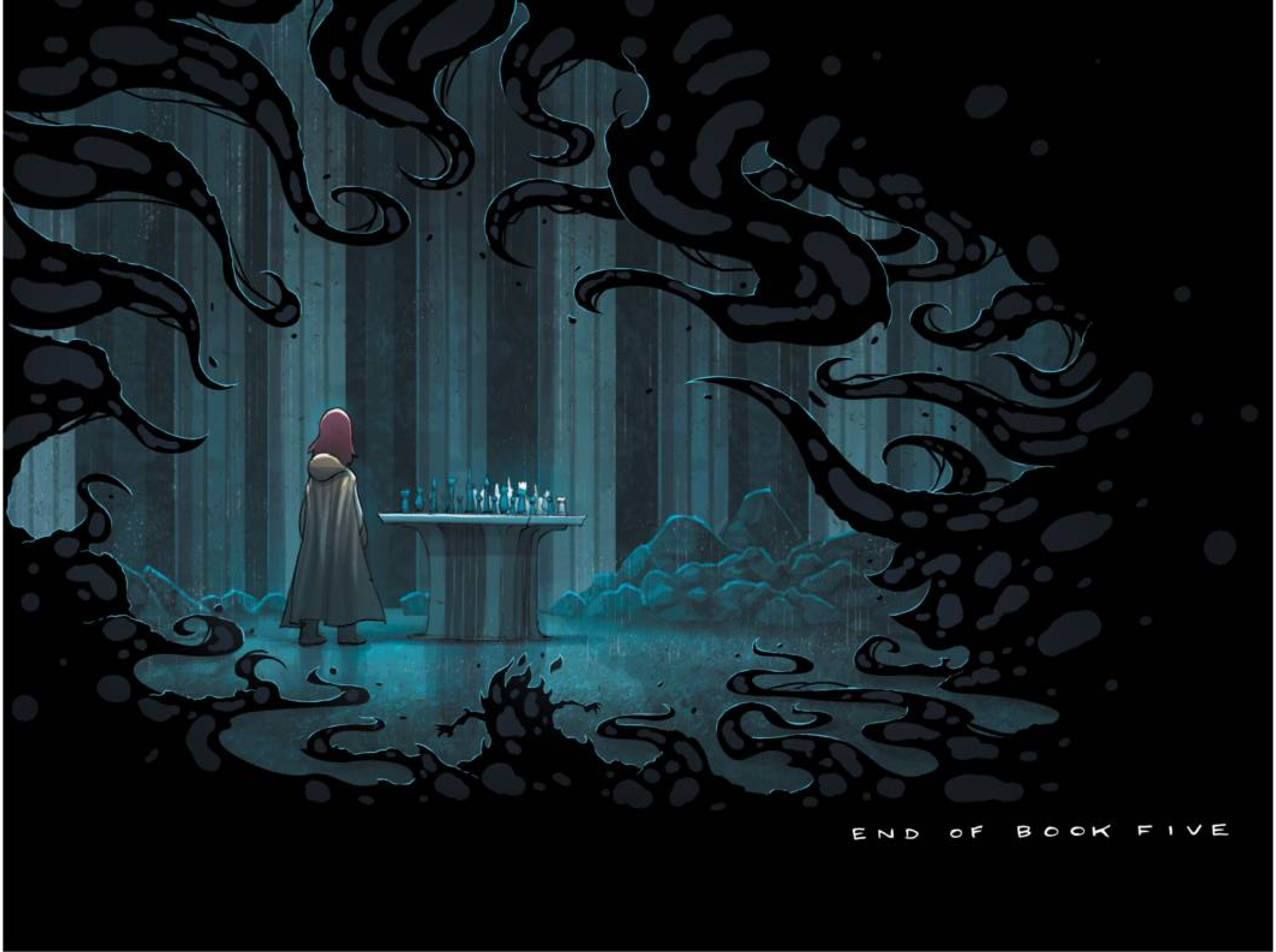

MY MASTER BELIEVES YOU ARE BETTER OFF JOINING HIM IN THIS FIGHT.
AND HE WANTS YOU TO KNOW IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO SURRENDER.
SO, WHAT DO YOU SAY, STONEKEEPER?
HWEEE!!
SZWIK!
POP!






SO YOU WANT TO PLAY?


FINE.
LET'S PLAY.


END OF BOOK FIVE

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in Alhambra, California

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About the Author

Kazu Kibuishi is the creator of the #1 *New York Times* bestselling Amulet series. He is also the founder and editor of the acclaimed Flight anthologies, and is the creator of *Copper*, a collection of his popular webcomic that features an adventuresome boy-and-dog pair. Most recently, Kazu reimagined and illustrated the covers of the 15th anniversary paperback editions of the Harry Potter series. He lives and works in Seattle, Washington, with his wife, Amy Kim Kibuishi, and their children.

Visit Kazu online at www.boltcity.com.


WINDSOR
GULFEN
LUFEN
Ice Prison of Korthan
Gondoa Mountain
TAKA RIVER
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Ganon's Gate
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COCONINO VALLEY
Pomo
Coco
Ippo



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Emily survived the chaos of the Guardian Academy, but Max Griffin has stolen the Mother Stone. With it, the Elf King forges new Amulets that will give him the power to invade and destroy the nation of Windsor. Emily and her friends lead the soldiers of the Cielis Guard in a fight to stop him, but Max stands in their way. And when she seeks information from the Voice of her Amulet, she discovers that the Voice is much more sinister than she ever could have imagined.

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